

RHODE ISLAND WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Connecting Land and Water



We all live in a WATERSHED -- the area that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, estuary, wetland, or even the ocean. Within WATERSHEDs there is a physical connection between land and water, between tributaries and the river, between surface water and groundwater, and between wetlands and water – what happens on the land has a direct impact on the water. The Watershed Stewards program acknowledges the linkages between land and water management and teaches interested participants basic tools for monitoring and managing our watershed resources.

Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will focus on water issues and will be held at the DEM Offices on Promenade St. (adjacent to the Woonasquatucket River). Classes 5, 6, 7 and 8 will focus on land issues and will be held at the Smithfield Conservation Commission building.

The class uses the Woonasquatucket River and its watershed as our living laboratory but the information is applicable to ANY watershed!!! The class is developed as a partnership between the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, the Smithfield Land Trust, the Smithfield Conservation Commission, RI DEM, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the RI Land Trust Council and the RI Rivers Council.

Class 1: Class Overview and Introduction to Watershed Protection

Tuesday, September 19th 5:30 to 9:00pm at the DEM Offices, 235 Promenade St, Providence

5:30 – 6:45 Narragansett Bay Commission staff introduce participants to the Woonasquatucket River and the unique issues it faces as an urbanized watershed.

7:00 – 7:30 Introduction to class, overview of curriculum, class introductions

- Distribute notebooks

7:45 – 9:00 Introduction to watersheds, watershed hydrology and water quality (Q Kellog)

- Distribute water quality testing kits, tote bags and water quality overview

Class 2: Introduction to Water Quality Monitoring and the Stream Visual Assessment

Tuesday, September 26th 5:30 to 9:00pm at the DEM Offices, 235 Promenade St, Providence

5:30 – 6:45 – At Woonasquatucket River. Run through the chemical water quality tests in the LaMotte Low Cost Monitoring Kit.

7:00 – 9:00 – Introduction to SVAP watershed assessments. (Andy Lipsky)

Class 3: Conducting a Watershed Assessment

Saturday, September 30th 9:30am to 2:30pm at Donigian Park, Valley St, Providence

Participants will rotate between four stations

- SVAP with Andy Lipsky, NRCS
- Benthic macroinvertebrates
- Freshwater mussels with Ray Hartenstein, Watershed Steward
- Water quality with Sharon Pavignano and Bruce Hooke

10:00 – 10:45 First Rotation
11:00 – 11:45 Second Rotation
12:00 – 12:30 LUNCH
12:30 – 1:15 Third Rotation
1:30 – 2:15 Fourth Rotation

Class 4: Restoring Anadromous Fisheries

Tuesday, October 3rd 5:30 to 9:00pm at the DEM Offices, 235 Promenade St, Providence

5:30 – 6:30 PM

Walk upstream on the Woonasquatucket discussing the river as habitat for fish (what is has, what is missing), existing fisheries, and restoration of the river (what it will take, what is going on).

7:00 – 9:00 In classroom

Overview of fisheries management in Rhode Island (Phil Edwards – DEM)

Fish passage projects in the Woonasquatucket. Talking about what it takes to make projects happen. (Joe Bachand, NRCS)

Class 5: Introduction to Land Protection

Tuesday, October 10th 5:30 to 9:00pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr., Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department

5:30 – 6:00 Networking and Refreshments

Introduction to land protection strategies, the work of Land Trusts and Conservation Commissions and protected lands that we will be visiting (Ann Marie Ignasher)

Introduction to Conservation Development using the Connors Farm as the example. (Fred Presley and Don Burns)

Class 6: Developing and Managing Trails on Protected Lands

Saturday October 14th 9:00 am to 2:30 pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr., Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department

9:00 AM – Meet at the Conservation Commission and car pool to Connors Farm.

10:00 Field – take hike with Ken Weber on Connors Farm. During the hike, Ken will talk about the Connors Farm project, how it was conserved, the trails system and long term stewardship for the land.

12:00 Return to Conservation Commission for lunch

1:00 Caravan to DPW Restoration Site

1:30 Overview of restoration site (Jenny Periera) – Talk about how the site was selected for restoration, what was done at the site, and what is needed for on-going monitoring.

Class 7: Managing Protected Lands – Vernal Pools and Invasive Species

Tuesday October 17th 5:30 to 9:00 pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr., Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department

5:30 – 6:00 – Refreshments and networking

Overview of land management and introduction to the Wolf Hill Property (Kate Giorgi)

Introduction to Vernal Pools, invasive and endangered species (Jonathan Twining)

Class 8: Field Assessment of the Wolf Hill Property

Saturday, October 21st 9:30 am to 2:30pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr., Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department

Participants meet at the Conservation Commission Building and divide into 2 groups. One group goes with Kate Giorgi and one group with Jonathan Twining

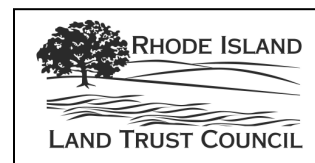
Kate hikes property and shows habitat types and what land is protected for. Also talk about invasive species – show participants invasive plants. Talk about control strategies.

Jonathan shows vernal pools and talks about vernal pool protection. Also talk about invasive species – show participants invasive plants. Talk about control strategies.



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Connecting Land and Water
September 19 – October 21, 2006



Offered in partnership with the *Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council*, the *Smithfield Land Trust*, the *Smithfield Conservation Commission*, *Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)* with support from the Narragansett Bay Commission, Rhode Island Water Resources Board, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Foundation and the Jessie B. Cox Trust

The RI Watershed Stewardship Program teaches interested citizens how to protect land and water resources in partnership with local land trusts and watershed councils. Participants learn hands-on techniques for water monitoring and protection, land protection and stewardship.

**** Classes include an outdoor walk for about an hour. The Saturday field sessions are held out of doors and will require some hiking ****

WATERSHED ASSESSMENT IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

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Part 2: Introduction to Water Quality Monitoring and the Stream Visual Assessment

(Tuesday, September 26th 5:30 to 9:00pm at the DEM Offices, 235 Promenade St, Providence)

Part 3: Conducting a Watershed Assessment

(Saturday, September 30th 9:30am to 2:30pm at Donigian Park, Valley St, Providence)

Part 4: Restoring Anadromous Fisheries

(Tuesday, October 3rd 5:30 to 9:00pm at the DEM Offices, 235 Promenade St, Providence)

LAND PROTECTION AND STEWARDSHIP

Part 1: Introduction to Land Protection

*(Tuesday, October 10th 5:30 to 9:00pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr. ,
Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department)*

Part 2: Developing and Managing Trails on Protected Lands

*(Saturday October 14th 9:00 am to 2:30pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr. ,
Smithfield – behind the Smithfield Police Department)*

Part 3: Managing Protected Lands – Vernal Pools and Invasive Species

*(Tuesday October 17th 5:30 to 9:00 pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr. ,
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Part 4: Field Assessment of the Wolf Hill Property

*(Saturday, October 21st 9:30 am to 2:30pm at the Smithfield Conservation Center, 5 Waterview Dr. ,
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Registration Form
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**Location: Department of Environmental Management (235 Promenade St.)
and Smithfield Conservation Center (5 Waterview Dr.)**

Registration Cost: \$45

(includes land and water restoration information, a water quality testing kit, field
identification guides, lunch for Saturday field trips)

Rhode Island Watershed Stewardship Registration Form

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Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____ Email _____

(Note: we need email addresses so that we can send you information on the class)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount Enclosed (\$45.00): \$ _____

Please submit your registration before September 10 if possible.
Please submit a separate registration for each person attending the Class

Make checks payable to: RI Rivers Council

Mail registration and checks to:

RI Rivers Council

PO Box 1565

North Kingstown, RI 02852

LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.

For more information call the Rivers Council at 401.714.2313